

Velasquez, J.N., Carnevale, S., Mariano, M., Kuo, L.H., Caballero, A., Chertcoff, A., Ibanez, C. & Bozzini, J.P. 2001. Isosporosis and unizuite tissue cysts in patients with acquired immunodeficiency syndrome. *Human Pathology*, **32**: 500–505.

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Two different approaches for resolving nomenclatural difficulties relating to *Isospora* Schneider, 1881 have been proposed to the Commission. The first approach was published as Case 3187 in BZN **58**: 272–274 (December 2001) and the second in the comment above. Without expert advice it will be difficult for the Commission to provide a ruling that will best serve the medical and veterinary professions as well as protistologists and parasitologists. It has been drawn to the attention of the Secretariat by Dr Upton that discussions on the taxonomy of *Isospora* are planned for the 10th International Congress of Parasitology, which will be held in British Columbia, Canada, in August 2002. Numerous coccidian biologists will be present, and one session will attempt to reach a consensus on how to split the genus *Isospora*, name the resulting genera and resolve the type species issue. The Commission Secretariat hopes to publish a summary of the discussion on *Isospora* in the *Bulletin* in due course. This will allow the Commission to take into consideration the recommendations of the Congress when ruling in relation to Case 3187.

Further comments on all aspects of this case are invited.

Comment on the proposed conservation of *Hydrobia* Hartmann, 1821 (Mollusca, Gastropoda) and *Cyclostoma acutum* Draparnaud, 1805 (currently *Hydrobia acuta*) by the replacement of the lectotype of *H. acuta* with a neotype; proposed designation of *Turbo ventrosus* Montagu, 1803 as the type species of *Ventrosia* Radoman, 1977; and proposed emendation of spelling of HYDROBIINA Mulsant, 1844 (Insecta, Coleoptera) to HYDROBIUSINA, so removing the homonymy with HYDROBIIDAE Troschel, 1857 (Mollusca)

(Case 3087; see BZN **55**: 139–145; **56**: 56–63, 143–148, 187–190, 268–270; **58**: 56–58, 140–141, 301–303)

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We fully support the application.

The phylogeny and taxonomy of *Hydrobia* Hartmann, 1821, based on shell morphology, ultrastructure and soft part anatomy, have been studied in our Department of Malacology for about 30 years (see Falniowski, Dyduch & Smagowiec, 1977; Falniowski, 1986, 1987, 1988, 1990; Falniowski & Szarowska, 1995; Falniowski, Szarowska & Mazan, 1996). Thus, we feel well qualified to present our views on the current application.

1. The restriction that Radoman (1977) made in the locality where *Cyclostoma acutum* Draparnaud, 1805 was collected is little justified. As previously noted in a comment on this case (BZN 58: 301), Draparnaud (1805) might have collected his specimens at any locality in France. Where *Hydrobia* taxa are concerned, the occurrence of a species at a locality is certainly not so constant that we can be sure that the species currently found is the same as that collected 200 years ago. In fact, the occurrence of a species of *Hydrobia* is the result of several factors (see, for example, Fenchel, 1975a, 1975b; Hylleberg, 1975, 1976; Lappalainen, 1978) and different species can be found in nearly the same habitats. It must also be stressed that the brackish water habitats of *Hydrobia* are very unstable. Therefore, the present occurrence of *Hydrobia acuta* species at the restricted type locality does not prove its presence at the time Draparnaud was collecting.

2. In his selection of the lectotype of *Hydrobia acuta*, Boeters (1984) followed the letter of the Code without regard to its spirit. The main principle of the Code is to support and ensure the stability of nomenclature but this, unfortunately, is not what Boeters achieved. Possessing the two syntypes of *H. acuta*, Boeters had to choose one of them as the lectotype. The shells seemingly belonged to two species, one of them (putatively) *Ventrosia ventrosa* (Montagu, 1803) while the character states of the other corresponded to *H. acuta* as understood from the abundant literature. In fixing a type for *H. acuta*, Boeters thus had two alternatives: (1) to designate the *acuta*-like shell as the lectotype and to recognise the other specimen as a distinct species, probably *V. ventrosa*; or (2) to designate the *ventrosa*-like shell as the lectotype and to leave the other shell as an indeterminate '*Hydrobia* sp.'. If he had chosen alternative (1), stability of the names *Hydrobia acuta*, *Hydrobia*, *Ventrosia* and HYDROBIIDAE would all have been secured. His choice of alternative (2) has caused many problems, well documented by Wilke et al. and Giusti et al. (BZN 58: 301–303).

3. We cannot agree with the arguments of Boeters et al. (BZN 56: 56–63) that stability of nomenclature would be achieved by transferring the taxonomic understanding of the name *Hydrobia acuta* to *Ventrosia ventrosa*. It does not make much sense to give examples of how *Ventrosia* Radoman, 1977 was understood as *Hydrobia* many years before the name *Ventrosia* was introduced. It must also be said that there are many species of *Hydrobia* and they are the subjects of important and extensive research by marine biologists, ecologists, parasitologists and others. Therefore, the undesirable consequences following acceptance of the unfortunate designation of the *H. acuta* lectotype by Boeters (1984) would be profound and not limited to the field of malacology.

4. We agree with Naggs et al. (BZN 56: 143–148) that type specimens in the Mollusca are mostly empty shells and their identity may well not be in doubt. Some species of *Hydrobia* may be determined by their shells if numerous specimens from one locality are carefully examined. However, *Hydrobia acuta* is a special case because we do not know (1) where the original material was collected, nor (2) how many and which species are part of the sample. We have examined several thousand specimens of *H. acuta*, *Ventrosia ventrosa* and *Peringia ulvae*, some hundreds of them anatomically, and must state that it is not possible to determine these species without a knowledge of their soft part anatomy and pigmentation (see Muus, 1967; Falniowski, 1986, 1987, figs. 1, 2 and 4; Falniowski & Szarowska, unpublished data).

Considering all the above, it is our view that replacement of the lectotype for *Hydrobia acuta* by a neotype is very necessary.

Additional references

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Comment on the proposed conservation of the specific name of *Thalassema taenioides* Ikeda, 1904 (currently *Ikeda taenioides*; *Echiura*)
(Case 3212; see BZN **58**: 277–279)

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I write in full support of Dr T. Nishikawa's application to conserve the specific name of *Ikeda taenioides* (Ikeda, 1904) for the echiuran from the coasts of Japan. It is my view that he has uncovered all of the relevant literature. He has personal familiarity with the organism under consideration and I urge the Commission to concur with this request.